

FRENCH INDO-CHINA

Education

Education Is the most important single factor in colonization. For the colonizing country it may mean the moral conquest of the conquered, and a method of training them as collaborators. For the conquered, it is the means of understanding the civilization of their masters, and by it of eventually emancipating themselves. For both it leads to mutual understanding or to ineradicable antipathy.

Under their own governments both the Indianized and Sinicized peoples gave to education a religious and moral significance that it has lost in the West. In Aimam, moreover, it was linked to government office; it meant both a livelihood and a lifetime's prestige. Education to the Orientals meant emancipation from manual labour, as seen by their mandarins* long nails. This mental set-up has run counter to Western concepts at so many important points that a change of ideas was inevitable. Not only was it necessary to cope with native cultures, but the population's uneven distribution over the surface of the land added to the practical problems. There too, the major issue of varied and suitable curricula, in which three factors raised their disquieting heads—the language vehicle¹⁰, the expense, and the paucity of teachers.

Use of medium is still a moot question, though the most regards itself as definitive. Not only was it such a in assimilationist doctrines that native education was with a knowledge of the French language, but there in using the native languages to express or technical terms. The first step

10 use *mgm* in CbchinrChraa, where it became official for public use in the seventeenth century had invented this into Latin letter of the Annamite spoken language.

ng» the advantage of permitting a student to whereas formerly the Chinese *dmx>* effort. *Qaoe jgu* Is, essentially, an lustra-literacy, and not for the expression of abstract ideas. Its to so much criticism that there his to favouring Mine more scholarly language, or Preach, at for secondary education. Freadt fill to ewer Chinese in this duel. It is far easier to learn tad to tb* erf cutting the Airnamltes off from • modem—and orieRtateg